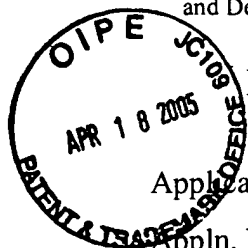


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jeffrey A. Schumacher et al.

Group Art Unit.: 3682

Appln. No.: 10/663,878

Examiner: ---

Filed: September 16, 2003

Docket No. 790063.94558

For: SEALED CHAIN LINK ASSEMBLY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of a communication from the European Patent Office (EPO) including a PCT International Search Report conducted by the EPO in a counterpart patent application to the one identified above. The document is being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98. A Form PTO-1449 "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" is attached which lists the references cited, and a copy of each cited reference is enclosed herewith.

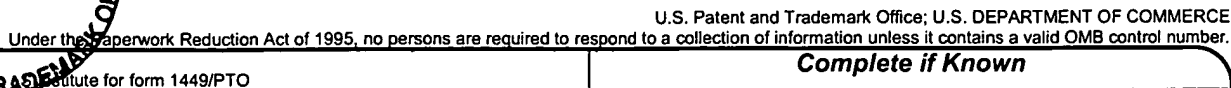
No additional fee is believed to be due for consideration of these documents. However, should a fee be deemed due by the Commissioner, such fee should be charged to Deposit Account No. 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 4/11/05

By:

Daniel G. Radler, Reg. No. 43,028
Quarles & Brady LLP
411 East Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 277-5749



(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	2
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Application Number	10/663,878
Filing Date	September 16, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeffrey A. Schumacher
Art Unit	3682
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	790063.94558

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code² (if known)			
		US- 2,389,874	11-27-1945	Searles	
		US- 3,206,258	9-14-1965	Heinrich	
		US- 4,150,856	4-24-1979	Hakkenberg	
		US- 4,265,084	5-5-1981	Livesay	
		US- 4,271,663	6-9-1981	Templin	
		US- 5,165,522	11-24-1992	Uttke	
		US- 5,269,729	12-14-1993	Thuerman	
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[illegible]

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Signature

Date
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/663,878
Filing Date	September 16, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeffrey A. Schumacher
Art Unit	3682
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	790063.94558

Sheet 2 of 2

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		PCT International Search Report	

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